

REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claim 10, leaves claims 14 and 16 unchanged, and cancels claims 1-9, 11-13, 15 and 17-19. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 10, 14 and 16.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-19 under 35 USC §101 as allegedly being directed to non-statutory subject matter. As indicated above, claims 1-9, 11-13, 15 and 17-19 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection with respect to claims 1-9, 11-13, 15 and 17-19 is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection with respect to claims 1-9, 11-13, 15, and 17-19 is respectfully requested.

With respect to the remaining claims 10, 14 and 16 amendments were made to these claims to more clearly recite that the present invention is directed to a processing system such as that illustrated in Fig. 1 for providing services from a plurality of service providers 11-20 to a plurality of service users 30. According to the present invention, the processing system includes a car mounted unit 32 provided for each of the service users 30 to permit the service user to input user inputs and to display data, a service provider management unit 60 for managing services between the service users and the service providers and a network 5 which interconnects the service users, service providers and service provider management unit.

Thus, as is quite from the above, the features of the present invention are clearly directed to a practical application within the technological arts, namely providing services to service users by service providers via a network, thereby producing a useful concrete and tangible result such as the service user selecting

and purchasing services desired by the service user and performing the service and conducting the transaction for the purchase of the services via the network.

Therefore, as is quite clear from the above, the present invention as now recited in the claims are directed to, for example, a machine/apparatus which constitutes statutory subject matter under 35 USC §101. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §101 rejection of claims 10, 14 and 16 is respectfully requested.

Claims 12, 13, 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention. As indicated above, claims 12, 13, 18 and 19 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 and 6-9 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Sehr (U.S. Patent No. 6,609,658); claim 5 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sehr; and claims 10, 11 and 14-17 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Sehr in view of Sears (U.S. Patent No. 6,098,101). As indicated above, claims 1-9, 12, 13, 15 and 17-19 were canceled. Therefore, the 35 USC §102(e) rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-9 as being anticipated by Sehr, the 35 USC §103(a) rejection of claim 5 as being unpatentable over Sehr, and the 35 USC §103(a) rejection of claims 11, 15 and 17 as being unpatentable over Sehr in view of Sears are rendered moot. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

With respect to the remaining rejection under 35 USC §103(a) of claims 10, 14 and 16 as being unpatentable over Sehr in view of Sears, this rejection is traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in claims 10, 14 and 16 are not taught or suggested by Sehr or Sears whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

Amendments were made to each of claims 10, 14 and 16 so as to more clearly recite that the present invention is directed to a processing system such as that illustrated in Fig. 1 including a plurality of service users 30, each making use of a car mounted terminal 32 which allows a user to input and display data, a plurality of service providers 11-20, a service provider management unit 60 and a network 5 which interconnects the above described elements.

As now more clearly recited in the claims, the service provider management unit performs various processings including particularly the concluding of agreements of service offerings from the service providers to the service users, the receiving of an application from a service user who desires a particular service the recording of personal data of the service user desirous of the service, the registration of the service user based on the personal data, the receipt of a lump-sum or periodic use fee from the service user for the purchase of the desired service, and the issuance of a point card for the service user in which the personal data of the service user and the point value corresponding to the received use fee is recorded.

The service providing management unit provides all of such function so as to permit various units included in the service providing management unit to perform

particular processing with respect to a particular type of service. For example, the service providing management unit includes a car use service (lease) management unit for managing the purchase and the providing of services to a service user regarding the lease of a car, a car insurance service management unit for performing all of the processing necessary to contract car insurance services for the service user, and an other car service management unit which performs all of the processing necessary to manage the providing and purchasing of services other than car use and car insurance services.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Sehr or Sears whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

Sehr merely teaches a method of setting point values for consideration for desired services. However, at no point is there any teaching or suggestion in Sehr of the above described features of the present invention wherein a service providing management unit is provided for performing all of the overall administrative services of registering service providers and service users, processing payments by the service users using an IC card, processing the completion of an agreements between the service providers and the service users, etc.

Further, there is no teaching or suggestion in Sehr of the above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims regarding a car use (lease) service management unit which is included in the service providing

management unit so as to perform all of the processing necessary so as to conclude an agreement between a car use service provider and the service users. Such features are clearly not taught or suggested by Sehr.

Even further, Applicants fail to find any teaching or suggestion in Sehr of the above described features of the present invention regarding the providing in the service providing management unit, a car insurance service management unit which performs all of the processing necessary to complete agreements between car insurance service providers and the service user according to the present invention. Such features are clearly not taught or suggested by Sehr.

Even further still, Sehr fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention regarding the providing of an additional car service management unit which manages services other than the car use and car insurance services. Such features are clearly not taught or suggested by Sehr.

Thus, as is clear from the above the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Sehr. Therefore, Sehr when taken individually fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims.

The above noted deficiencies of Sehr are not supplied by Sears. Therefore, combining the teachings Sehr and Sears still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims.

Sears merely teaches means for receiving a report from the service provider that the car use service has been completed and has been performed. However, these teachings of Sears do not supply any of the above noted deficiencies of Sehr particularly with regard to the service providing management unit, the car use service

management unit, the car insurance service management unit and the other car service management unit as now more clearly recited in the claims.

Thus, combining the teachings of Sehr and Sears in the manner suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §103(a) rejection of claims 10, 14 and 16 as being unpatentable over Sehr in view of Sears is respectfully requested.

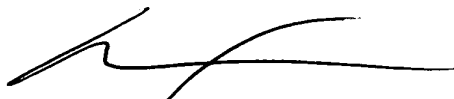
The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references utilized in the rejection of claims 1-19.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 10, 14 and 16 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 10, 14 and 16 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (503.39354X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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